COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

SHOOTING EVALUATION

UNIT:	Century Station
DATE:	Saturday, April 24, 2004
TIME:	0030 hours
LOCATION:	Intersection of 110th Street and Anzac Avenue, City of Los Angeles
URN#:	004-06861-2199-055
IAB#:	SH 2116404

On April 24, 2004, the Internal Affairs Bureau's Force and Shooting Response Team responded to the intersection of Anzac Avenue and 110 Street in the City of Los Angeles (adjacent to Century Station's area) regarding an officer involved hit shooting. The team consisted of Sergeants Brian Morris and Gregory Key, and Lieutenant Curtis Jensen. Detectives Abraham and Loman of the Sheriff Department's Homicide Bureau were the detectives assigned to handle the criminal aspect of the incident. Homicide Detectives Robison, Smith, Delhauer, Marsh, and Martinez also responded to location to assist with the investigation.

When the team arrived at the location, there was an active command post and containment of the area. One suspect was in custody and it was believed others were within the containment area. Investigators learned that the series of events which occurred culminated into three successive officer involved shootings involving Deputies Dennis Missel, Richard Conley, John Lopata, and [redacted]. Deputies Missel, Conley, Lopata, and [redacted] are all uniformed patrol officers working two-man units (Missel/Conley and Lopata/[redacted] respectively). Deputies Missel and Lopata were the drivers of the vehicles with Deputies Conley and [redacted] as the passengers ("bookmen").

This investigation is based on information obtained during the criminal investigation, which includes statements by the involved deputies and witnesses at the scene, and various written documentation.

SYNOPSIS:
At approximately 0030 hours, Deputies Conley and Missel (Unit 214H) were traveling eastbound on 110th Street at Anzac Avenue in their marked patrol vehicle, when they observed two Black males "slunked" down in the seats of their vehicle. Unsure as to whether the males were attempting to hide, they decided to turn around and make contact with them. As they approached the next intersection (Anzac Avenue) to turn around their radio car, both deputies reported hearing numerous gunshots around them. Believing they were being fired upon, Deputy Missel accelerated

the patrol car and drove out of the intersection, approximately 20 feet east of Anzac Avenue. As they traveled forward, they saw three different Black males crouching near a parked vehicle at the northwest corner of the intersection.

Deputies Missel and Conley exited their vehicle, believing the patrol car was the target of the gunfire. They were immediately confronted by the three black males, who ran across 110th Street towards them. One of the males took a "combative stance" and extended his arms in front of him, appearing as if he was holding a gun. At that time another volley of gunfire erupted from Anzac Avenue. In fear for their lives, both deputies fired their duty weapons (between 3 to 4 rounds each) at the male. The males turned and ran westbound on 110th Street.

As the suspects fled, Deputies Missel and Conley reported hearing more gunshots coming from Anzac Avenue. The sound of the shots temporarily diverted their attention from the three fleeing males to the more immediate threat on Anzac Avenue. Deputy Conley requested assistance and advised that officers were involved in a shooting ("998") via his mobile radio. He then set up a containment of the area as Deputy Missel moved on foot east towards Grape Street (one block east of Anzac Avenue) in an attempt to keep visual contact of the three males.

Deputy Missel suddenly heard the screeching of tires and saw a white vehicle traveling southbound towards him at a high rate of speed from Grape Street. The vehicle quickly accelerated and veered towards him. Deputy Missel jumped between two parked cars in order to avoid being hit by the vehicle. As the vehicle passed him, Deputy Missel saw that the driver of the vehicle was holding a gun. The vehicle continued southbound and veered directly towards Deputy Conley, who jumped to the curb to avoid being hit. Deputy Conley fired two rounds from his duty weapon at the vehicle as it approached him.

The vehicle continued westbound on 110th Street (towards Wilmington Avenue), where Deputies [redacted] and Lopata (Unit 213F) had responded and taken a position on the containment of the area. As the vehicle approached them at a high rate of speed, it appeared to be swerving on the road in an uncontrolled manner. As it proceeded westbound, the driver fired his gun at Deputies [redacted] and Lopata. Deputy [redacted] jumped from the path of the vehicle and fired 4 to 5 rounds at the car as it traveled passed him. The vehicle continued westbound, heading towards Deputy Lopata.

Believing that his partner was shot or run over and with the car proceeding towards him, Deputy Lopata fired twelve to thirteen rounds at the vehicle as it drove passed him and across Wilmington Avenue. The vehicle swerved and continued westbound on 110th Street towards Willowbrook Avenue, where it turned northbound (Willowbrook Avenue) and collided into a parked truck at the northeast corner. The occupant(s) exited the vehicle and fled northbound on Willowbrook Avenue. The driver was subsequently apprehended at [redacted], which is located one block north of the traffic collision scene. He was identified as Ronald Thomas, A.K.A. "Cheddar", from P.J. Watts Crips street gang. Suspect Thomas suffered multiple gunshot wounds to his legs, and was transported to Martin Luther King Medical Center where he was treated for his injuries. All other parties involved in the incident remain unidentified.

During the criminal investigation, detectives learned that the white vehicle was an Acura Legend that had been reported as a "stolen vehicle" on April 23, 2004. The registered owner of the car was

[redacted]. Investigators discovered that Ms. [redacted]s boyfriend, [redacted], is also a PJ Watts Crip gang member and an acquaintance of Suspect Thomas. On April 29, 2004, investigators contacted Mr. [redacted], who was in custody of the Los Angeles Police Department for unrelated [redacted]. Mr. [redacted] stated that he did not know when the vehicle was taken, nor did he give Ronald Thomas permission to use the car. Mr. [redacted] opined that someone was trying to set him up for the shooting on 110th Street.

COMPLETED BY:
Sergeant Clay Anderson, Internal Affairs Bureau

DATE:
March 22, 2005

INVOLVED PERSONNEL:

Dennis Missel
Deputy Sheriff, Employee #[redacted]
Field Operations Region II
Century Sheriff's Station

Richard Conley
Deputy Sheriff, Employee #[redacted]
Field Operations Region II
Century Sheriff's Station

John Lopata
Deputy Sheriff, Employee #[redacted] 
Field Operations Region II
Century Sheriff's Station

[redacted]
Deputy Sheriff, Employee #[redacted]
Field Operations Region II
Century Sheriff's Station

EMPLOYEE WORK HISTORY:

Deputy Dennis Missel

Date of Employment:	04-05-91
Date assigned to Century Station:	07-20-97
Date completed patrol training:	[redacted] 
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	
Prior Founded Force Incidents:	

Deputy Richard Conley

Date of Employment:	10-04-91
Date assigned to Carson Patrol:	11-27-98
Date completed patrol training:	[redacted]
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	Three (11/98, 01/99, 11/01)
Prior Founded Force Incidents:	[redacted]

Deputy John Lopata

Date of Employment:	09-27-74
Date assigned to Carson Patrol:	08-19-01
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	One (5/03)
Prior Founded Force Incidents:	[redacted]

Deputy [redacted]

Date of Employment:	[redacted] 
Date assigned to Carson Patrol:	
Date completed patrol training:	
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	
Prior Founded Force Incidents:	



SUSPECT(S):

Ronald Thomas, MB/12-15-81, 6'-00", 170 lbs., black/brown
PJ (Project) Watts Crips - aka "Cheddar"
[redacted]

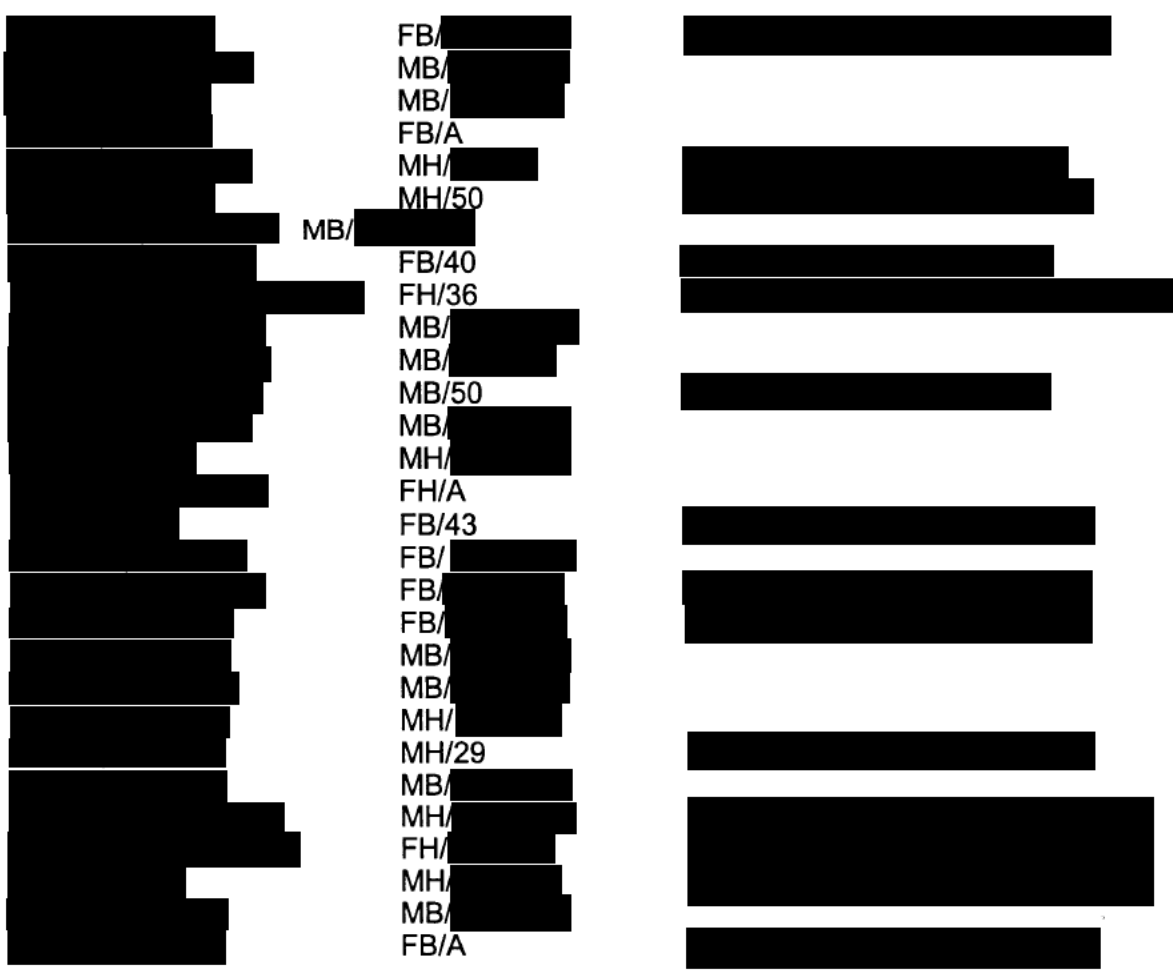
Booking # 8099960 C.I.I. [redacted] Main # [redacted]

CRIMINAL HISTORY:

Suspect Thomas has an extensive criminal background. A check of the CCHRS (Consolidated Criminal History Reporting System) [redacted]

IAB Note: Refer to **Exhibit B pages 150- 176** for Suspect Thomas's criminal history report.

NON-DEPARTMENT WITNESSES:



[redacted]	FB/[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	FB/A	
[redacted]	MH/[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	MH/50	[redacted]
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	FB/40	[redacted]
[redacted]	FH/36	[redacted]
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	MB/50	[redacted]
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	MH/[redacted]	
[redacted]	FH/A	
[redacted]	FB/43	[redacted]
[redacted]	FB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	FB/[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	FB/[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	MH/[redacted]	
[redacted]	MH/29	[redacted]
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	MH/[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	FH/[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	MH/[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	MB/[redacted]	
[redacted]	FB/A	[redacted]

DEPARTMENT WITNESS(ES):

None

INJURIES:

Suspect Thomas sustained gunshot wounds to his right and left legs. The wound located on his left leg was approximately six inches above his knee. The bullet did not exit and was not removed by medical personnel. He sustained a "grazing" wound to the lower, inner side of his right thigh, also approximately six inches above his knee. Suspect Thomas additionally sustained a laceration to the palm of his left hand, directly below the middle finger. The laceration was closed with four stitches.

On 05-09-04, Investigator Abraham contacted Doctor Khuu, who was the emergency room physician at Martin Luther King Drew Medical Center. He treated Suspect Thomas for his injuries. Doctor Khuu stated the bullet in Suspect Thomas' left leg did not strike bone and was not an immediate threat; therefore, it was not removed. Doctor Khuu said he would not provide any additional medical information regarding Suspect Thomas, citing "Doctor/Patient confidentiality."

IAB Note: Photographs of Suspect Thomas's injuries are submitted with this investigation as **Exhibit C**.

WEAPONS USED BY SUSPECT(S):

Although no suspect weapons were recovered from Suspect Thomas, four (4) expended .40 caliber casings were recovered from his vehicle directly after the shooting. One casing was recovered from Wilmington Avenue near the left rear corner of the vehicle. Three casings were revered from the vehicle's interior: one on the right rear floorboard, one on the driver's seat, and one on the driver's front floorboard. For information regarding the collection of the casings, refer to Scientific Services' supplementary report (**Exhibit B, pages 129-38**.)

IAB Note: Photographs of the interior of Suspect Thomas's vehicle and the recovered casings are submitted with this investigation as **Exhibit F and G**.

WEAPON USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL:

Deputy Missel

Department issued service firearm: Beretta, Model 92F, 9MM, serial #BER[redacted]Z. Missel's weapon contained one live Winchester Luger 9MM round in the chamber and twelve live Winchester Luger 9MM rounds in the magazine. He stated that prior to the incident, his weapon was loaded with one live round in the chamber and with fifteen live rounds in the gun magazine for a total of sixteen rounds. Thirteen rounds were remaining in the gun, which would account for **three rounds being fired during the incident**. For additional information, refer to the Crime Lab's examination of Missel's weapon (**Exhibit B, p. 134-136, lab receipt J556095, Item B**).

Deputy Conley

Department issued service firearm: Beretta, Model 92F, 9MM, serial #BER[redacted]Z. Conley's weapon contained one live Winchester Luger 9MM round in the chamber and seven live Winchester Luger 9MM rounds in the gun magazine. Deputy Conley said his weapon was loaded with one live round in the chamber with fifteen live rounds in his gun's magazine. Eight rounds were remaining in the gun, which would account for **eight rounds being fired during the shooting incident.** For additional information, refer to the Crime Lab's examination of Conley's weapon (**Exhibit B, p. 134-136, lab receipt J556095, Item A**).

Deputy Lopata

Heckler & Koch, .45 caliber, Model USP, Serial #[redacted].
Deputy Lopata stated that he staggers the bullets in his magazines in an effort to stop the bullets from making a "clinking noise." Due to this, his magazines are loaded with eleven rounds and/or twelve rounds. Deputy Lopata's weapon contained one live .45 caliber round in the chamber and eleven live .45 caliber rounds in the gun magazine. Deputy Lopata's first magazine was completely emptied during the shooting. Deputy Lopata said his weapon was loaded with one live round in the chamber and with eleven or twelve live rounds in the gun magazine for a total of twelve or thirteen rounds. Since the magazine left in the gun had eleven bullets plus one in the chamber and the first magazine was completely empty, this would account for **twelve to fourteen rounds being fired during the shooting incident.** For additional information, refer to the Crime Lab's examination of Lopata's weapon (**Exhibit B, p. 134-136, lab receipt J556095, Item D**).

[redacted]

Department issued service firearm: Beretta, Model 92F, 9MM, serial #BER[redacted]Z. [redacted]'s weapon contained one live Winchester Luger 9MM round in the chamber and twelve live Winchester Luger 9MM rounds in the gun magazine. Deputy [redacted] said his weapon was loaded with one live round in the chamber and with fifteen live rounds in his gun magazine, for a total of sixteen rounds. Thirteen rounds were remaining in the gun, which would account for **three rounds being fired during the shooting incident.** For additional information, refer to the Crime Lab's examination of Lopata's weapon (**Exhibit B, p. 134-136, lab receipt J556095, Item C**).

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Refer to the Homicide Book, **Exhibit B, pages 29-38 and 126-131** for Physical Evidence gathered at the crime scene(s) and processed by the Crime Lab. The Crime Lab report is located in **pages 134-147** of the same exhibit.

Refer to the property damage section for additional comments regarding bullet strikes.

INVOLVED DEPUTIES:

Deputy Dennis Missel was interviewed at Century Sheriff's Station by Homicide investigators, Detectives Abraham and Loman, on April 24, 2004, at about 0505 hours (approximately four and a half hours after the initial shooting). The interview was audio recorded.

Deputy Missel said he was driving eastbound 110th Street approaching Anzac Avenue, when he saw a car along the north curbline with two Black males seated in the car. He observed that the males appeared to be leaning back, "slumped down" in the seats. Deputy Missel said as he and Deputy Conley approached the intersection of Anzac Ave, he planned on making a U-turn and go back to contact the occupants of the vehicle.

As he entered the intersection of Anzac Avenue and 110th Street, Missel said he heard approximately ten gunshots coming from the north on Anzac Avenue. He stated that he could hear the bullets flying over his patrol car and skipping off the concrete of the street. Believing he was being fired upon, Missel said he accelerated out of the intersection, and stopped his patrol vehicle approximately 15-20 feet east of Anzac Avenue. He and Deputy Conley then exited the car, and took a position between the driver's door and the engine block.

He looked north and saw three Black males east of some cars which were parked on the west curbline of Anzac Avenue. Missel said the males were crouching down, as if trying to take cover while utilizing a "combat position." As he watched them, it appeared they fixated on the patrol car. He said the three males began moving in a southeasterly direction towards him and Deputy Conley. Missel said he noticed that one of the males was wearing bulky, all black clothing with a hood covering his head. He stated that as they approached the male wearing the black clothing raised both his hands in front of him in what appeared to be a "shooting triangular position." Believing the male was armed and about to shot him, Deputy Missel fired three to five rounds at him. The three males then retreated, running west on 110th Street towards Wilmington Avenue. Simultaneously, Deputy Missel said he heard more gunshots coming from Anzac Avenue, just north of his location. The sound of the gunshots diverted his attention from the men running, and when he looked back the three males were out of view.

Missel stated that at that time Deputy Conley requested assistance via his handheld radio in an effort to set up a containment of the area. The first assisting unit on the scene was 213F, Deputies [redacted] and Lopata. Deputy Missel said they drove east on 110th Street from Wilmington Avenue towards the location of the shooting, but he stopped their progress in order to keep them out of the line of fire. Deputies [redacted] and Lopata then took a position at 110th Street and Wilmington Avenue.

Deputy Missel said as his partner continued establishing a containment, he walked eastbound towards Grape Street (first street east and parallel to Anzac Avenue) in order to get a visual of that street. When he was approximately 20-30 feet west of Grape Street, he saw a white vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed southbound from Grape Street to westbound 110th Street towards him. The white car stopped briefly on 110th Street in front of him. Missel stated that he could not see the driver due to the headlights, but he tried to tell the driver to wait and back up. At that time, the vehicle quickly accelerated and traveled directly towards him. Missel said he jumped between two parked cars in order to avoid being struck by the vehicle. As the vehicle passed by him, he stated that he saw the driver was holding a blue steel handgun in his right hand. Missel stated that

he did not see anyone else in the car and he did not shoot at the vehicle as it traveled passed him, because Deputy Conley was in his line of fire.

As the vehicle continued westbound on 110th street, Deputy Missel said he saw the vehicle veer towards Deputy Conley, who was also in the street. He said he yelled at Conley, attempting to warn him of the danger. Missel said as the car accelerated towards Conley, he saw him jump out of the way of the vehicle and fire several rounds towards the car. The vehicle continued westbound on 110th Street accelerating towards Wilmington Avenue and Unit 213F's location. Missel stated that as it approached Unit 213F's position, he heard several gunshots and saw muzzle flashes emanating from the interior of the white vehicle. When the vehicle was in the intersection, Deputy Missel heard several more gunshots, and the vehicle continued westbound on 110th Street past Wilmington Avenue, out of his view.

Deputy Missel said after the incident involving the white car, he heard more gunshots from Anzac Avenue; so, he and his partner continued setting up a containment of the area. Later, he stated that he learned that the white vehicle collided with a parked car.

Deputy Richard Conley was interviewed at Century Sheriff's Station by Homicide investigators, Detectives Abraham and Loman, on April 24, 2004, at about 0555 hours (approximately four hours and thirty minutes after the initial shooting). The interview was audio recorded.

Deputy Conley said he and his partner, Deputy Dennis Missel (the driver), were traveling eastbound on 110th Street just west of Anzac Avenue, when they noticed a car parked on the north side of 110th Street. The vehicle had two Black males seated in the car and they appeared to be "slouching" down in their seats. Conley said he was uncertain if the males were sleeping or trying to hide; however, he and his partner were adjacent to the vehicle and because of safety concerns they did not stop at that point and continued eastbound. Deputy Conley said when they arrived at the intersection of 110th Street and Anzac Avenue, he heard numerous gunshots emanating from Anzac Avenue just north of their position. He immediately ducked and looked north on Anzac Avenue, where he saw numerous people approximately four to six houses north of the intersection. He stated that he believed the gunshots were being fired from within a couple house lengths of the intersection.

Deputy Conley said his attention was then immediately drawn to three Black males, who were running towards the patrol car as the shooting was occurring. He said he found it unusual that all three males were crouched down as they ran, appearing to hide behind the parked cars. Conley stated that he believed the males were shooting at them (him and Missel) or involved in another gun battle occurring on the street.

Conley stated that Missel accelerated the vehicle out of the intersection and stopped approximately fifteen to twenty feet east of Anzac Avenue. He and Missel immediately exited their vehicle, and he went to Missel's side of the car (driver's side). At this time, the three males ran out onto 110th Street towards them. Conley said one of the three immediately caught his attention; he described the male as wearing all dark clothing with either a dark blue or black hooded sweatshirt. Conley stated the male was crouched down and appeared to be holding a handgun, which was pointed at them. He said as he saw the male, he simultaneously heard another burst of gunfire and believed he was being fired upon. Seeing a threat directly in front of him, he fired three to four rounds at

the male. He then retreated east in front of the patrol car and heard several more gunshots on Anzac Avenue. Due to the proximity of the gunshots, Deputy Conley said his attention was briefly diverted from the three males and he looked towards Anzac Avenue. As he returned his attention back in the direction of the males, he saw them running southbound on Wilmington Avenue.

Deputy Conley said as gunshots continued from Anzac Avenue, he began requesting assisting units via his handheld radio for a containment. He said Missel took a position one house length east on 110th St. towards Grape Street. While looking towards Anzac Avenue, Conley said he suddenly heard the sound of screeching tires from behind him (east 110th St.). When he looked back, he saw headlights coming in his direction from a white vehicle, which was accelerating at a high rate of speed. Deputy Conley heard his partner yelling for the white vehicle to stop, but the vehicle continued traveling towards Deputy Missel. Conley said he saw Missel jump out of the way of the vehicle as it continued to accelerate. Deputy Conley said he made eye contact with the driver, who deliberately veered the vehicle directly towards him. Believing the vehicle was going to hit him, Deputy Conley jumped onto the curb and fired approximately two rounds as it traveled by him. Deputy Conley said he saw only one occupant in the vehicle (driver), which he described as a Black male wearing a white T-shirt with short hair.

Deputy Conley said the vehicle continued west on 110th Street. As it approached the Wilmington Avenue, he heard gunshots coming from the intersection. However, he said he could not see anything at that intersection due to the lights from Unit 213F's vehicle shining in his direction. Conley stated that he subsequently heard on his hand held radio that the vehicle had crashed and a suspect had been detained.

Deputy John Lopata was interviewed at Century Sheriff's Station by Homicide investigators, Detectives Abraham and Loman, on April 24, 2004, at about 0505 hours (approximately four and a half hours after the initial shooting). The interview was audio recorded.

Deputy Lopata stated that at approximately midnight, he heard an assistance request over his radio stating that Unit 214H (Deputies Missel and Conley) was involved in a shooting at 110th Street and Anzac Avenue. He said he and his partner, Deputy [redacted] were at 108th Street and Wilmington Avenue (two blocks north), and responded to the location. Lopata said he drove southbound on Wilmington Avenue to 110th St. When he arrived at Unit 214H's location, he was directed by Missel to set up a containment position at 110th Street and Wilmington Avenue. Deputy Lopata related that while traveling southbound on Wilmington Avenue, he heard numerous gunshots in the area.

Deputy Lopata stopped his patrol car at the intersection of 110th Street and Wilmington Avenue. He said while positioning his unit, he heard more gunshots in the area and he and [redacted] exited their patrol car. As [redacted] walked towards the sidewalk of the intersection, Deputy Lopata said he heard the sound of an engine revving and two more gun shots fired. He looked west and saw a white car traveling at a high rate of speed past 214H's location, approaching their position. The car appeared to be out of control as it swerved from curb to curb on 110th Street. When the vehicle was within 50-100 yards, the driver of the vehicle began shooting at them (him and [redacted]). He heard approximately eight to ten gunshots coming from the vehicle and bullets flying past him. Lopata said he took a position of cover behind a wooden telephone/electrical pole on the sidewalk of Wilmington Avenue. At this time, he heard radio traffic from Unit 214H stating there was a

second deputy involved shooting which involved the white car. The radio traffic also instructed them to stop the vehicle.

Lopata said he watched the vehicle veer from the north curb to the south curb of 110th Street. The vehicle was heading directly at his partner at an extremely fast speed (approximately 70 miles per hour). He yelled to [redacted], "Watch the crossfire," and moved back to the street. As he turned his attention towards the vehicle, he said bullets continued to be fired from the white car. Lopata said he heard them "go by my head" as he watched the car. He then looked over to [redacted]'s direction; however, [redacted] was gone.

Lopata said as the vehicle continued westbound towards him (approximately 20-25 feet), the driver continued shooting at him. Believing that his partner was "run over" by the vehicle and he was now directly in its path, Lopata stated that he "engaged" the vehicle and returned fire. As it passed him, he saw the driver pointing a gun in his direction and firing through the passenger window (over the passenger). Lopata said he continued to fire at the vehicle as it traveled past him and into the intersection of 110th Street and Wilmington Ave. He stated that he fired 12 to 13 rounds with one magazine exchange at the vehicle, before it entered the intersection and he lost view of the car. Deputy Lopata said he saw two occupants in the vehicle. He described the driver as a Black male with short black hair, thin build and a white T-shirt and the front seat passenger as a Black male with a shaved head, wearing all dark clothing.

Deputy Lopata stated that as he went to find his partner, Deputy [redacted] ran past him and in the direction that the white car had traveled. Lopata returned to his patrol vehicle and directed the arriving three assisting units on 110th Street to follow the car and Deputy [redacted]. At this time, he said he heard on his radio that the white car had collided with a parked vehicle on Wilmington Avenue just north of 110th Street. Believing the suspect would run northbound, Deputy Lopata said he advised his partner that he and Deputy [redacted], another assisting deputy, were headed north on Wilmington Avenue to 109th Place. While driving west on 109th Place, he saw two males hiding behind a red Ford Excursion about mid block ([redacted]). He stopped his patrol car and approached the vehicle on foot. Lopata said by the time he arrived to the Excursion only one male was still there. He immediately recognized the male as the driver of the white vehicle who shot at him.

Lopata detained the suspect without any further incident. He stated that he noticed the male was bleeding from his leg, apparently due to a gunshot wound. He requested paramedics to the location.

Deputy [redacted] was interviewed at Century Sheriff's Station by Homicide investigators, Detectives Abraham and Loman, on April 24, 2004, at about 0705 hours (approximately six hours and thirty minutes after the initial shooting). The interview was audio recorded.

Deputy [redacted] said he and his partner, Deputy Lopata, were traveling eastbound on 108th Street approaching Wilmington Avenue when they heard emergency radio traffic, stating a deputy was involved in a shooting at 110th Street and Wilmington Avenue. [redacted] said they responded to the area, southbound on Wilmington Avenue to 110th Street. Once they began traveling east on 110th Street, Deputy [redacted] said he heard several gunshots. He could see Unit 214H's patrol car on the street ahead of them, but he said he couldn't see the deputies. As they traveled

eastbound, he heard more radio traffic instructing them not to drive down 110th Street. Deputy Lopata then backed up their patrol unit and stopped at the intersection of 110th Street and Wilmington Avenue.

[redacted] stated that as he and Lopata exited their patrol car, he could still hear numerous gunshots being fired near Unit 214H's position. He said he began walking east on the south sidewalk of 110th Street (with his partner on the north side of the street) in an effort to ascertain what was occurring near Anzac Avenue. As he proceeded east on 110th Street, he saw headlights of a vehicle that appeared to have passed 214H's patrol car at 110th Street and Anzac Avenue. He said he could hear an engine revving, then saw a white vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed as it drove westbound in their (his and Deputy Lopata's) direction. Deputy [redacted] said the vehicle appeared out of control, stating that the car was swerving. As the vehicle approached, he heard eight to ten gunshots coming from the car. [redacted] said he began "back pedaling" in an effort to find cover. As he turned back around, the vehicle was headed directly for him.

Believing he was about to be struck by the white car, he jumped to the side and out of the car's path. He said he on the street near the curb of 110th Street. He said he quickly got up and ran to the southeast corner of Wilmington Avenue, where he took a position of concealment behind a "metal-tin roof style fence." From behind the fence, he saw the vehicle still heading in his direction, simultaneously he heard more gunshots coming from the car. [redacted] said he believed that he and Deputy Lopata were being shot at by occupant(s) of the vehicle. He fired two shots at the car and it veered out of his path northward in the direction of Deputy Lopata.

[redacted] said as the car passed him, he saw that the driver was a Black male with short hair wearing a white t-shirt. He said the driver appeared to be "fixed" on his partner, Deputy Lopata. [redacted] stated that the driver was leaning towards the passenger's side of the car as it traveled in the direction of Deputy Lopata. He could see the driver had one hand on the steering wheel, and he believed the other was firing a gun at Lopata. (He stated that he could not see the other hand, but related that it was raised in the direction of his partner.) Deputy [redacted] said he fired again at the vehicle as it passed him.

The white vehicle continued veering to the north side of the road in the direction of Deputy Lopata. As it passed the patrol car's trunk, the car swerved, missing Lopata, and continued westbound. Deputy [redacted] said the car slowed down and it appeared as if it was going to stop near the intersection of Willowbrook Avenue and 110th Street. He began to chase after the vehicle on foot. He saw the vehicle turn north on Willowbrook Avenue from 110th Street. When he reached the corner of 110th Street and Willowbrook Avenue, he saw the the white car had collided with a parked vehicle. Deputy [redacted] waited for assisting units, which were already arriving, before he approached the car, only to find that it was empty. Deputy [redacted] said he notified assisting units via his handheld radio the car had collided with a parked car and set up a containment.

Deputy [redacted] said he subsequently learned that an individual was detained. Upon contact with Suspect Thomas, he immediately recognized him as the person driving the white vehicle.

Deputy [redacted] complained of pain to his knees as a result of jumping from the path of the white vehicle. He sustained minor abrasions to his knees and a cut to the little finger of his right hand.

CIVILIAN WITNESS STATEMENTS:

[redacted]

Witness [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide investigators at his home at about 0605 hours. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said sometime after 2200 hours he was on Wilmington Avenue with his girlfriend, [redacted]. He stated that they were walking to the liquor store, when he heard numerous gunshots coming from the middle of Anzac Avenue. [redacted] said he and Ms. [redacted] immediately hid. He said as they were on the ground, she told him the police were shooting, but she could not see who else was also involved.

Shortly after hearing the gunshots, [redacted] said he saw a police car driving on Wilmington Avenue approaching 110th Street. He stated that he believed they also must've heard the shots as the police car sped up to get to 110th Street and slowed down before arriving at the corner.

Witness [redacted] related there were two local gangs ("Suicidals" and "Ten Line") that have recently been shooting at each other. He stated that they were involved in a turf war, explaining the Suicidals claim Anzac Avenue as their turf, as do the Ten Lines gang. Mr. [redacted] stated that the Suicidal gang was made up of male Hispanics, and the Ten Line gang was made up of male Blacks and male Hispanics.

Witness [redacted] said he returned to Anzac Avenue after the police had taped it off and saw [redacted] and his girlfriend in front of [redacted]'s home ([redacted]). He identified [redacted] as a member of the Suicidals gang. [redacted] stated that upon contacting them, [redacted] told him, "We blasted the Ten Line. We Sprayed their ass."

> **IAB Note:** [redacted]s home is directly [redacted] the [redacted] where Witness [redacted] heard the initial gunshots.

[redacted]

According to Homicide investigators, [redacted] was present during Witness [redacted]s interview. However, they reported that she was "less than cooperative," stating that she only heard gunshots and did not see anything.

[redacted] **AND** [redacted]

At about 0730 hours, Investigators spoke with Witness [redacted] and [redacted] (the [redacted] and [redacted] of [redacted], at their residence. The interview was tape recorded.

Mrs. [redacted] identified her [redacted] as follows:

- [redacted] - [redacted] MH/48, DOB: [redacted]
- [redacted] - [redacted] MH/27, DOB: [redacted]
- [redacted] - [redacted] MH/22, DOB: [redacted]
- [redacted] - [redacted] FH/21, DOB: [redacted]

Mrs. [redacted] said she was awakened by loud gunshot sounds emanating from 110th Street and Wilmington Avenue. She stated that she thought it came from that area, because a helicopter was flying overhead. She said however she had not personally seen anything.

Mrs. [redacted] stated that only she, her [redacted], and [redacted] ([redacted]) were home at the time of the shooting. She said her [redacted] was standing outside with a neighbor (unidentified), and she believed her [redacted], [redacted], was asleep with his lady friend in the back house.

IAB Note: Homicide Investigators reported that when they told Mrs. [redacted] that they would like to talk with [redacted], she stated that she would call him to the front residence. Instead, she suggested investigators interview her [redacted], who was about to come out of the shower. When investigators offered to go to the back house, Mrs. [redacted] stated that she did not know if [redacted] was home, because he and his [redacted] were to meet with the [redacted]'s [redacted] for breakfast. When Homicide investigators noted that [redacted]s car was still parked in front of the house, Mrs. [redacted] stated that she thought the [redacted]'s [redacted] may have picked them up. Investigators related that it appeared Mrs. [redacted] made the assumptions even before she attempted to contact her [redacted].

Additionally, Homicide investigators reported that during Mr. [redacted]s interview, Mrs. [redacted] stepped away and left the room. When she returned shortly after, she stated that [redacted] had already left to have breakfast with his [redacted]'s [redacted]. (Note: Anzac Avenue between Santa Ana Boulevard and 110th Street had been cordoned off to through traffic. According to Homicide investigators, no one was allowed to enter the street and anyone leaving identified themselves to deputy personnel.)

Mr. [redacted] said at about midnight he was in bed watching television, when he heard numerous gunshots coming from Wilmington Avenue. He stated that his [redacted] was asleep next to him. Mr. [redacted] stated that when he went into his house earlier in the evening (about 2230 hours), he did not notice any suspicious person(s) near his home.

IAB Note: Homicide investigators reported that when Mr. [redacted] was asked from what direction he heard the shots being fired, he interjected that there was no shooting from his home, only from Wilmington Avenue.

[redacted] AND [redacted]

On 04-25-2004 at 1050 hours, Homicide investigators contacted [redacted] and [redacted]. The following is a synopsis of the contact.

Witness [redacted]

Witness [redacted] said that at the time of the shooting, he and Ms. [redacted] were sitting in a van in front of his house ([redacted]). While sitting and conversing, he saw a Sheriff's radio car slowly pass by the van. The radio car was traveling east on 110th Street toward Anzac Avenue. [redacted] said he pointed to the radio car, stating that it was the same police car he had observed earlier. [redacted] said as the radio car passed Anzac Avenue, "gunfire broke out...... no sooner than that come three youngsters running around that corner, ducking and squirming and running, it looked like they were running for their life." He said he saw the three males run west on 110th Street, passing them (still in the van). He then heard the officers telling them to stop. [redacted] continued stating, "no sooner than those kids come this way,.... comes a white car all out of hell."

[redacted] said more gunfire broke out and he "jumped to the ground." He said the white car traveled west on 110th Street towards Wilmington Avenue, and out of his view.

Witness [redacted]

Witness [redacted] concurred with Mr. [redacted]s statement. She added that after the males ran by the van, she began to exit it. She heard the police yelling at the males to "freeze." She and [redacted] exited the van and entered the front yard ([redacted]). At that point, she saw a white car driving west on 110th Street. She said, "the car was shooting as it was coming around the corner," relating she saw "flashes and sparks." She said she believed, "they (the people in the white car) were shooting at the three (deputies) or anybody else that got in the way."

Witness [redacted] additionally provided a description of the males, which were seen running from the location. She described one as a Black male with braided hair, dressed in dark clothes; the second as a young Mexican male approximately 5'8" tall with a bald head; and the third male only as a Black male.

[redacted]

On 04-24-04, Investigator Robison interviewed Witness [redacted] at Century Sheriff's Station. Present at the interview was Sergeant Greg Key from Internal Affairs Bureau and Deputy District Attorney Gilbert Wright. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said the night of the shooting he and his friend, [redacted], were talking in [redacted]'s vehicle which was parked on 110th St near Wilmington Avenue. At Approximately 0100 hours, he heard approximately ten gunshots in the area. Witness [redacted] said the shots sounded as if they originated north of his location, and appeared to be fired from two different weapons.

Shortly after the gunshots, he said he saw a police car on Wilmington Avenue. He then saw a white car traveling past his location westbound on 110th Street from Wilmington Avenue at a high rate of speed. At that time, he said he heard several more gunshots, which appeared to be closer in proximity. The white car turn from westbound 110th Street to northbound Willowbrook Avenue and out of his view.

Immediately after the white car passed, he said he saw a deputy running down the sidewalk in the same direction as the white car. Witness [redacted] said he ducked down in the car and was unable to see the occupants of the white vehicle. He was subsequently brought to Century Sheriff Station to be interviewed.

[redacted]

On 04-24-04, Investigator Robison interviewed Witness [redacted] at Century Sheriff's Station. Present at the interview was Sergeant Greg Key from Internal Affairs Bureau and Deputy District Attorney Gilbert Wright. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] stated that he was seated in the driver's seat of his vehicle on the south side of 110th Street approximately one hundred feet west of Wilmington Avenue, when he heard an "exchange of gunshots." He said the gunshots sounded as if they originated north of his location and were fired by two different weapons. Approximately ninety seconds later, he saw a police car traveling east on Wilmington Avenue towards 110th Street. He then heard more gunshots that

sounded closer. Seconds later, he saw a deputy standing at the intersection of 110th Street and Wilmington Avenue, shooting at a car which was speeding away westbound on 110th Street. He said at that point he ducked down inside his car to take cover. He related that he did not see the occupants of the car or the type of car that passed by; however, he heard it traveling at a high rate of speed.

Witness [redacted] said shortly after the car passed him, he saw a deputy running westbound on 110th Street. A short time later, he was contacted by a Deputy [redacted] who asked him to go to Century Sheriff Station to be interviewed by detectives.

[redacted]

On 04-24-04, Investigator Robison interviewed Witness [redacted] at Century Sheriff's Station. Present at the interview was Sergeant Brian Morris from Internal Affairs Bureau and Deputy District Attorney Gilbert Wright. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said at the time of shooting, he was walking southbound on Wilmington Avenue on the sidewalk near 108th Street. As he approached 109th Street, he heard what sounded like two gun shots. He then saw police cars speeding southbound Wilmington Avenue toward 110th Street. He crossed the street and continued walking southbound Wilmington Avenue. Approximately two minutes later, he heard several more gunshots. He then saw a white car speed westbound 110th Street across Wilmington Avenue. He said two police officers were shooting at the car as it went through the intersection.

Witness [redacted] said after the shooting stopped he was detained and handcuffed by deputies. After a short detention he was released and asked to go to Century Sheriff Station to be interviewed by detectives.

[redacted]

On 04-24-04, Investigator Robison interviewed Witness [redacted] at Century Sheriff's Station. Present at the interview was Sergeant Brian Morris from Internal Affairs Bureau and Deputy District Attorney Gilbert Wright. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said at the time of the shooting, he was in his car talking with friends, ([redacted] and [redacted]). He said the car was parked on 110th Street between Anzac Avenue and Wilmington Avenue. They had been at the location approximately five minutes and were planning to "meet some girls."

While there, he saw a police car pass his location eastbound on 110th Street toward Anzac Avenue. Immediately after the police car passed, he heard several shots. He looked to his left and saw a male, possibly Hispanic with a shaved head, running westbound on 110th Street from Anzac Avenue. He said the deputies stopped their patrol car on 110th Street east of Anzac Avenue. They were kneeling next to the open doors of their police car, shooting at the man running west bound on 110th Street.

Witness [redacted] said approximately 30-40 seconds later. He heard the revving engine of a speeding car approaching his location from the east. When the car neared Anzac Avenue, he looked in the rear view mirror and saw a white car speeding towards him. Witness [redacted] said

he then heard more gunshots, but he could not see who was shooting. However, he believed the occupants of the speeding car were shooting at the deputies, and the deputies were shooting at the speeding car. As the car passed his location, Witness [redacted] said he ducked down, and as the car passed the intersection of Wilmington Avenue and 110th Street he heard several more gunshots.

Witness [redacted] said the first volley of gunfire sounded as if they originated from Anzac Avenue a short distance north of 110th Street, the second volley from 110th Street near Anzac Avenue, and the final volley took place near the intersection of 110th Street and Wilmington Avenue.

After the shooting stopped, he tried to get the deputies' attention to let them know he and his friends were sitting in the car. He said deputies detained him and his friends for a short time. He was then asked to go to Century Sheriff Station to talk to detectives.

[redacted]

On 04-24-04, Investigator Robison interviewed Witness [redacted] at Century Sheriff's Station. Present at the interview was Sergeant Brian Morris from Internal Affairs Bureau and Deputy District Attorney Gilbert Wright. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said at the time of the shooting, he was seated in a vehicle with his friends [redacted] and [redacted], "planning to meet some girls." He said while seated in the car, he saw a police car pass his location eastbound on 110th Street. Immediately after the police car passed, he heard approximately three gunshots and ducked down inside the car. Approximately two minutes later, he said he heard the sound of a revving car engine approaching his location from the east. He then heard what he described as two different guns firing. Witness [redacted] related that he thought it was an exchange of gunfire between occupants of the white car and the police. The vehicles continued westbound to Wilmington Avenue.

Witness [redacted] stated that did not see the speeding car, and his perspective of the incident was based solely on what he heard.

[redacted]

On 04-24-04, Investigator Robison interviewed Witness [redacted] at Century Sheriff's Station. Present at the interview was Sergeant Brian Morris from Internal Affairs Bureau and Deputy District Attorney Gilbert Wright. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said he was seated in the rear seat of a car with his friends ([redacted] and [redacted]) on 110th Street between Anzac Avenue and Wilmington Avenue, planning to meet some girls. While there, he said he heard several nearby gunshots from behind his location. First he heard two shots, then approximately three seconds later he heard several more gunshots in rapid succession. He said he ducked down in the back seat and waited a short time. He looked back toward the east of 110th Street and saw a police car. Approximately three or four minutes later, he saw several police officers in the street. He said he called out to the officers to let them know he and his friends were in the car. [redacted] said the police officers had him and his friends exit the vehicle and lay on the ground. After he and his friends were checked by the police, they were asked to go to Century Sheriff Station to be interviewed. Witness [redacted] said he did not know the source of the gunshots, stating that he ducked down when he heard the gunfire and

did not look up for several minutes.

[redacted]

On 04-25-04, Investigator Robison interviewed Witness [redacted] at Century Sheriff's Station. Present at the interview was Sergeant Brian Morris from Internal Affairs Bureau and Deputy District Attorney Gilbert Wright. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said at the time of the shooting incident, he was walking alone, northbound on Wilmington Avenue between 110th Street and 111th Street. While walking, he heard three series of gunshots. The first series was approximately three gunshots. About thirty seconds later, he heard a second volley of approximately five to ten gunshots. Then approximately thirty seconds later, he heard the third volley of five to ten gunshots. He said the source of the gunshots appeared to be around 110th Street, east of Wilmington Avenue.

[redacted] said after the shooting he saw several police cars rapidly respond to the area of 110th Street and Wilmington Avenue. He did not see anyone other than police driving or running from the area the shots originated from.

He continued walking toward 110th Street and was subsequently detained by police officers. He was then asked to go to Century Sheriff Station to be interviewed by detectives.

[redacted]

On 04-25-04, Investigator Robison interviewed Witness [redacted] at Century Sheriff's Station. Present at the interview was Sergeant Brian Morris from Internal Affairs Bureau and Deputy District Attorney Gilbert Wright. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said he was at his aunt's [redacted] located on the [redacted] of Willowbrook Avenue and 110th Street. He said he initially heard three or four distant gunshots, then approximately one minute later, he heard a second series of gunshots that sounded closer. Several seconds after the second series of shots, he said heard several more gunshots that sounded very close. He described the last series as an exchange of gunfire, stating that it sounded like two different guns being fired. After the third series of gunshots, he heard someone run up the stairs of the [redacted] complex and slam the door. Witness [redacted] said he decided to go outside and see what was taking place. When he walked outside to the front of the [redacted] complex, a helicopter shined its light on him and he was detained by police officers.

Witness [redacted] said that while he was outside he noticed a car that had crashed into the back of a truck parked on the corner of Willowbrook Avenue at 110th Street. He also saw several police officers standing around the vehicle and assumed whoever was in the car was already in custody.

Witness [redacted] said he was handcuffed, detained and eventually asked to go the Century Sheriff's Station to talk to Detectives.

[redacted]

On 04-28-04, at approximately 1000 hours, Investigator Robison contacted Witness [redacted] via telephone per her request.

Witness [redacted] said on the night of the incident at approximately 0030 hours, she was driving away from her mother's house located on the [redacted] of 110th Street at Anzac Avenue. As she pulled out of the driveway, she noticed three Black males walking westbound on the north sidewalk of 110th Street between Anzac Avenue and Grape Street. She said the males were wearing dark clothing and looked like gang members. She drove eastbound on 110th Street to northbound Grape Street, where she suddenly heard six to ten gunshots. She said the gunshots sounded as if they were fired by two different guns. [redacted] said she continued driving away from the location and did not return.

[redacted]

On 04-25-04, Investigator Smith interviewed Witness [redacted]. Witness [redacted] related the following:

Witness [redacted] said she heard the police helicopter in the area of her house, most of the night prior to this shooting. She said she saw the lights of what she believed was a police car drive by, and when she looked out of the window, she saw a deputy's car. Witness [redacted] then heard "pow, pow, pow." She said her husband yelled at her to "get down," but she continued to look outside. She stated that she only saw deputies.

Witness [redacted] said the first shots she heard were in the direction of the police. She said the police returned fire, explaining their guns had a distinctive "pop, pop, pop, pop" sound, different from the sound of the first shots. Witness [redacted] said she saw a deputy who had just shot his gun, he paused, then looked for the person/people who were shooting at him. She said she then heard the suspect's gun fire and the officer shout, "They're going northbound from 110th Street," or something similar.

Prior to the shooting, Witness [redacted] had never seen the white Yukon which Investigators noted was parked on the [redacted]. She stated that she did see a white car, which she believed to be the white Chevrolet Malibu drive eastbound on 110th Street after she heard the first shots. She said she heard the deputies order the driver of the car to stop, but it continued to move away from the deputies. Witness [redacted] said she then saw a deputy shoot in the direction of the car. She then heard another set of gun shots coming from the area west of her house.

Witness [redacted] speculated that the people in the white Malibu "must have been on something." She stated that the occupants were acting like they were "shermed," (under the influence of P.C.P.) Explaining they were having problems following the deputies verbal instructions. She further stated that the driver and front passenger inside the Malibu looked like they were "Zombies."

Witness [redacted] heard the deputies order the people out of the Malibu. The rear passenger got out and walked across the street. The police detained him, along with the driver.

WITNESSES [redacted] and [redacted]

On 04-25-04, Investigator Smith contacted Witnesses [redacted] and her niece, [redacted], who had notified Century Station deputies of "suspicious prowlers."

Witness [redacted]

Witness [redacted] stated that around 0300 hours, she saw two shadows move from the west side

of her apartment to the rear of her apartment. The two ("most likely men") then jumped the fence of her apartment into the back yard of the house [redacted] her residence (later identified as [redacted]). She said she could not determine the identity or race of the men.

Witness [redacted]

Witness [redacted] stated that she heard the sounds of two males jumping over her back fence. She said the men were talking to each other. Witness [redacted] related that she did not believe they were Hispanic, but she was hesitant to say the men were Black. When one of the men jumped the back fence, he began swearing and [redacted] thought he either sprained or broke his foot.

[redacted] said local gang members often run though her [redacted] and into the yard and residence directly [redacted] her apartment. That residence is [redacted] and frequented by local gang members.

Neither of the above witnesses knew if these two men were related to the shooting Smith was Investigating.

[redacted]

Witness [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide investigators at his home at about 0750 hours, on 04-25-04. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said he went to bed at about 2130 hours and was awakened by the sound of nearby gunshots. He said shortly after he heard people talking and laughing. About five minutes later, he said he heard more gunshots that appeared to be discharged west of his home. Afterward, a third set of gunshots rang out southwest of his home, and then he heard the sound of a car speeding away.

[redacted]

At about 0905 hours, on 04-25-04, [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide investigators in front of her home. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said she was awake in her bed when she heard gunshots. She looked out of her front bedroom window and saw a police car stopped in the middle of 110th Street, [redacted] of Anzac Avenue. She said she saw the deputies exit the patrol car, then shoot westbound towards Wilmington Avenue and in different directions. She said she did not see anyone; so, she didn't know who they were shooting at. She heard more gunshots, then police officers fired their weapons again. Witness [redacted] related that she did not think the officers could see the other people who were shooting.

Witness [redacted] said she then saw a white car traveling west, approaching the deputies. She saw one of the deputies standing in front of the patrol car telling the driver of the white car to stop. The car sped up to about "80 miles an hour" and drove around the patrol car. The deputy then began to shoot at the white car. Witness Jackson said she saw three people in the white car as it sped away.

[redacted]

On 04-25-04, at about 0940 hours, [redacted] was interviewed in front of his home by Homicide investigators. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said he was in his bedroom talking on the telephone, when he heard gunshots. He went to his mother's front bedroom and saw a police car stopped in the middle of 110th Street. [redacted] said there was a deputy standing in front of the police car and another deputy standing by the driver's door. He said they were talking on their portable radios about the shots that were fired.

Witness [redacted] said the deputy standing in front of the police car quickly walked east in the street towards an approaching white car, possibly a Honda Civic. The deputy began telling the driver of the white car to stop and the occupants to exit. Instead, the white car accelerated "fast." [redacted] said the deputy had to jump out of the way of the vehicle as it traveled around the patrol car, between the patrol car driver's side and the north sidewalk.

Witness [redacted] said the deputy who was standing by the driver's door of the patrol car had to move north towards the sidewalk to avoid being struck by the car. He said as the white car passed the deputy, the deputy started shooting at it. [redacted] stated that it appeared the deputy was shooting downward as though trying to shoot the tires of the white vehicle as it passed him. He said he heard the deputy say, "Get the white car," relating he thought the deputy may have been talking on the portable radio. He said within seconds he heard another series of gunshots; however he could not see who was involved in that incident.

[redacted]

On 04-25-04, at 1005 hours, [redacted], a Spanish speaker, was interviewed by Homicide investigators in his home. The interview was audio recorded.

Witness [redacted] said he was awakened by a noise that sounded as though someone was trying to get into his house or some type of wood breaking. He went to his front window and saw a patrol car with its emergency lights and the spotlights on, stopped in the street of 110th Street [redacted] of his home. Suddenly, he heard gunshots. [redacted] said the shots sounded as though they were north of him; however, he stated that he later learned the shots came from the police who were [redacted] of him.

Witness [redacted] said he saw two deputies, both standing on the south sidewalk of 110th Street. It appeared the deputies were trying to conceal themselves behind park cars as they spoke on their portable radios. [redacted] said as they were on the sidewalk, a white vehicle was approaching from the east. He saw one of the deputies step out into the street and yell for the white car to stop. [redacted] said the car accelerated and appeared to be trying to get around the patrol car. He said the deputy in the street began shooting at the car as it passed by him. [redacted] said he lost sight of the second deputy (on the sidewalk), and did not know what action he took.

Mr. [redacted] checked the front exterior of his house, and saw numerous gunshot impacts on the front of his house that were not there before. He stated that none of the bullet impacts penetrated the wall, because there is a layer of 3/4" plywood under the stucco. He also stated that two of the bullet impacts were already on the wall from a prior incident. Mr. [redacted] said he has lived in his current home for only three months. He stated that has not had any problems with anyone, and has no idea who would have shot at his home.

[redacted]

On 04-25-04, at approximately 1130 hours, Homicide investigators interviewed [redacted] in front of his home. The interview was audio recorded.

Mr. [redacted] said sometime around 2400 hours he and a friend ([redacted]) were seated in his parked van talking, when he heard gunshots to the east of him. After the gunfire, he then he heard cars accelerating west on 110th Street, heading towards his direction. He and [redacted] exited the van and hid near the back of the van. He said he saw a white car pass by at a high rate of speed.

Mr. [redacted] saw the white car turn north onto Willowbrook Avenue and abruptly stopped behind a truck parked just north of 110th Street. Two male Hispanics exited the white car through the passenger's door and ran northbound on Willowbrook Avenue. He said he did not have a "steady view," because he was peeking around the vehicle "a few instances" at a time. When he looked up again, the two male Hispanics were out of view. But, he saw a Black male standing on the street about five feet west of the driver's side of the white car. He said he did not see where the Black male came from. After he ducked down and looked again, the male was gone.

Mr. [redacted] described the two Hispanic males as young males wearing white T-shirts. He said one was about 5 feet 8 inches tall, weighed about 175 pounds and had hair cut very short. He could not further describe the other Hispanic male or the Black male.

[redacted]

[redacted] stated that he was sitting in the front yard of his residence ([redacted], when he heard gunshots in the area northeast of his home. He walked to the [redacted] and saw three Black males running southbound on Anzac Avenue to westbound on 110th Street, and out of his view.

Witness [redacted] identified a White Chevy Tahoe (CA License Plate [redacted]) parked on the [redacted] side of 110th Street [redacted] of Anzac Avenue. He stated that the vehicle parked at the location just prior to him hearing the gunshots. [redacted] said he believed that the three Black males came to the location in that vehicle.

[redacted]

On 04-25-2004 at 0955 hours, Homicide investigators contacted [redacted]. The following is a synopsis of the contact:

Witness [redacted] said between 2330 hours and midnight he was watching television, when he heard the sound of gunfire. He looked out of his window and saw a police car with a deputy standing near it and talking on the radio. He heard the deputy yelling, "Stop the car! Stop the car!" Rivera said he heard a car pass by, possibly traveling westbound on 110th Street, then more gunfire.

He said he could not recall how long after the car passed by that he heard the additional gunfire, nor did he know who have been shooting. However, he related the first gunshots that he heard were louder than the second series of gunshots involving the white car. Mr. [redacted] said he remained in his house and did not look outside.

[redacted] and [redacted]
On 04-25-2004 at 1041 hours, Homicide investigators contacted [redacted] and [redacted]. The following is a synopsis of the contact.

Witness [redacted] said she was looking out of her living room window between 2100 and 2200 hours and saw two vehicles parked on the north side of 110th Street, [redacted] from her home. She said one of the vehicles was a white SUV and the other a white car. She said several males (unidentified) were standing near the vehicles on the sidewalk. About an hour later, she heard gunfire. At this point, Witness [redacted] interrupted, stating that he was watching television and heard the gunfire at 2335 hours. He stated there were several shots, which he believed were fired near the [redacted] of their home. Witness [redacted] added that she believed "6 shots or less" were fired. After "about five minutes," Witness [redacted] said she heard additional gunfire. She did not know how many shots were fired, but between the first and second series of gunfire she "heard a car take off." She said after the gunfire stopped, she looked out of the window and saw police officers talking with some males near the SUV and the small white car on the north side of 110th Street. [redacted] related that he remained in his bedroom and only recalled hearing gunshots on one occasion.

[redacted]
On 04-25-2004 at 1130 hours, Homicide investigators contacted [redacted]. The following is a synopsis of the contact.

Witness [redacted] said around 0020 hours she heard the sound of gunshots ("possibly four shots") . Within 1 -2 minutes, she heard additional gunfire (possibly 5-6 shots), which sounded closer to her home. After the second set of gunfire, she said she looked out of her front window and saw a white car traveling west on 110th Street towards Willowbrook Avenue. She withdrew from the window, then suddenly heard a loud sound. She looked out of her door and saw that the white car had collided with a truck parked along the eastside of Willowbrook Avenue, just north of 110th Street. She said the front end of the white car was in contact with the rear of the truck, but no one was in the white vehicle.

[redacted]
On 04-25-2004 at 1227 hours, Homicide investigators contacted [redacted] at [redacted]. The following is a synopsis of the contact.

Witness [redacted] said she arrived home between 0030 and 0045 hours the night of the shooting. She was [redacted] the street from her home, talking to a neighbor when she heard gunshots to the [redacted] of the residence. She stated that saw a white car "screechin" down 110th Street and then heard more gunfire ("4 or 5 shots" coming from the white car). The white car turned from westbound 110th Street to northbound Willowbrook Avenue, where it crashed into a parked truck on Willowbrook Avenue. Witness [redacted] said she saw two males exit the car from the passenger's side of the vehicle and run north on Willowbrook Avenue. She stated that she could not describe the males; however, she recalled that they wore white T-shirts.

The following people were interviewed shortly after the incident during a canvassing of the area by Century Station personnel. Each related essentially the same story that they heard gunshots and/or were awakened by the sound of gunshots or a helicopter. However, each also stated that they had not witnessed the incident or could contribute any other information:

[redacted]

IAB Note: For further information regarding their statements and the canvassing of witnesses, refer to the supplemental reports located in the Homicide investigation of the incident (**Exhibit E**), pages 40 to 45 and pages 75 to 81.

SUSPECT STATEMENT:

Suspect Ronald Thomas was interviewed at Martin Luther King Drew Medical Center by Homicide investigator Robison on 4-24-04. Suspect Thomas said he did not know who shot him and stated that he did not want to say anything that would incriminate him. However, Thomas related he was at his [redacted]'s house in the [redacted] apartment complex prior to the incident. He said they had an argument and he left on foot to his [redacted]s house ([redacted]). He was walking on Wilmington Avenue from 114th Street alone, when he heard gunshots. He looked down the street, saw deputies, and began running. Thomas said the next thing he remembered he was holding onto a gate and had a gunshot wound to his legs. He then saw a deputy shining a flashlight on him and he was taken into custody.

Suspect Thomas denied being in a vehicle at anytime prior to or after being shot. He stated that he was innocent of any crime and reiterated he did not know who shot him.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR and CHARGES FILED:

Investigator: Detectives Mitch Loman and Tamar Abraham, Homicide Bureau

Court: Crimes Against Peace Officers Branch Office
Los Angeles Superior Court/Case #TA074448
Deputy District Attorney Linda Loftfield

Charges Filed: Attempt Murder of a Peace Officer, 664/187(a) PC
Assault on a peace officer with a semi automatic weapon, 245(d)(2)PC
Assault on a Peace Officer, 245(c) PC (three counts)

187. (a) Murder is the unlawful killing of a human being, or a fetus, with malice aforethought.

664. Every person who attempts to commit any crime, but fails, or is prevented or intercepted in its perpetration, shall be punished where no provision is made by law for the punishment of those attempts, as follows: (a) If the crime attempted is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison, the person guilty of the attempt shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for one-half the term of imprisonment prescribed upon a conviction of the offense attempted. However, if the crime attempted is willful, deliberate, and premeditated murder, as defined in Section 189, the person guilty of that attempt shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life with the possibility of parole. If the crime attempted is any other one in which the maximum sentence is life imprisonment or death, the person guilty of the attempt shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for five, seven, or nine years. The additional term provided in this section for attempted willful, deliberate, and premeditated murder shall not be imposed unless the fact that the attempted murder was willful, deliberate, and premeditated is charged in the accusatory pleading and admitted or found to be true by the trier of fact.

245. (**d**) (**2**) Any person who commits an assault upon the person of a peace officer or firefighter with a semiautomatic firearm and who knows or reasonably should know that the victim is a peace officer or firefighter engaged in the performance of his or her duties, when the peace officer or firefighter is engaged in the performance of his or her duties, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for five, seven, or nine years.

245. (c) Any person who commits an assault with a deadly weapon or instrument, other than a firearm, or by any means likely to produce great bodily injury upon the person of a peace officer or firefighter, and who knows or reasonably should know that the victim is a peace officer or firefighter engaged in the performance of his or her duties, when the peace officer or firefighter is engaged in the performance of his or her duties, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for three, four, or five years.

PROPERTY DAMAGE:

- Residence [redacted], twelve bullet holes to front of structure.
- Residence [redacted], four bullet holes to front of structure.
- Vehicle, Chevy Astro Minivan, bullet hole to front left bumper and windshield.
- Vehicle, Acura Legend, collision damage to front of vehicle, bullet holes to rear, passenger side and windshield.
- Vehicle, Ford, “stake-bed truck”, CA Plate [redacted], collision damage to rear of vehicle.